

Amendments to the Claims

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

✓ Claim 1 (original): A laminate for sealing nozzles on print cartridges, comprising:
a moisture retardant base film; and
a hot-melt layer adhesively bonded thereto, the laminate seals the print cartridge nozzles prior to use.

✓ Claim 2 (original): The laminate of claim 1 wherein the base film is a polyolefin.

✓ Claim 3 (original): The laminate of claim 1 wherein the base film is a polyester.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The laminate of claim 1 wherein the laminate additionally contacts and seals electrical contacts and leads on print cartridges against corrosion.

✓ Claim 5 (original): A laminate for sealing print cartridges, comprising:
a non-woven thin base film having crevices therein; and
a moisture retardant hot-melt layer, said hot-melt flows into the crevices in the base film and mechanically bonds the film and hot-melt layer together.

Claim 6 (original): A print cartridge with sealed nozzles, comprising:
a print cartridge having nozzles through which ink is jetted; and
a hot-melt layer adhesively bonded to the print cartridge and sealing the nozzles.

✓ Claim 7 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 wherein the print cartridge contains ink; the nozzles are contained in an orifice plate on the print cartridge; and the hotmelt

prevents ink from escaping from the print cartridge, prevents ink from attacking materials around the orifice plate, and provides a moisture barrier against corrosion.

✓ Claim 8 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 wherein the print cartridge has electrical contacts and leads mounted thereon which are also sealed by the hot-melt.

✓ Claim 9 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 wherein the hot-melt is adhesively bonded to a film having an adhesion with the hot-melt that is greater than the adhesion between the hot-melt and the print cartridge.

✓ Claim 10 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 wherein the hot-melt layer is laminated with a moisture retardant base film.

✓ Claim 11 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 where in the hot-melt is heat staked to a moisture retardant pouch material.

✓ Claim 12 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 where in the hot-melt is heat staked to a cardboard sleeve.

✓ Claim 13 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 wherein the hot-melt is block coated on heat stakable pouch material.

✓ Claim 14 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 wherein pouch material is wrapped around the print cartridge and wherein the hot-melt layer is one layer of a laminate, said laminate having a free-end that is captured in the pouch material.

Claim 15 (original): A process for sealing a print cartridge having nozzles that jet ink, comprising:

releasably capturing a hot-melt moisture retardant tape;

cutting the tape to size;

positioning the cut tape over the nozzles; and heat staking the tape over the nozzles.

Claim 16 (original): The process of claim 15 wherein the tape has a free end and capturing the free end of the tape in pouch material and flow wrapping the pouch material around the print cartridge.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The process of claim 15 wherein the print cartridge has electrical contacts and leads and further including positioning the cut tape over the electrical contacts and leads as well as the nozzles and heat staking the tape over and in contact with the electrical contacts and leads as well as the nozzles.

Claim 18 (original): A process for sealing a print cartridge having nozzles that jet ink, comprising;

applying a layer of hot-melt over the nozzles; and
heat staking a moisture retardant layer of material over the hot-melt.

Claim 19 (original): The process of claim 18 wherein the moisture retardant material is pouch material.

Claim 20 (original): A process for sealing a print cartridge having nozzles that jet ink, comprising;

block coating heat stakable pouch material with hotmelt;
positioning the pouch material over the nozzles;
heat staking the block coated hot-melt to the nozzles; and
flow wrapping the pouch material around the print cartridge.

Claim 21 (original): The process of claim 20 wherein the print cartridge has electrical contacts and leads and further including;

positioning the block coated hot-melt over the electrical contacts and leads as well as the nozzles; and
heat staking the block coated hot-melt over the electrical contacts and leads.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The laminate of claim 1, wherein the base film is a polyethylene terephthalate film coated with an ethylene acid copolymer resin.

Applicant : Veronica A. Nelson et al.
Serial No. : 09/820,427
Filed : March 28, 2001
Page : 5 of 13

Attorney's Docket No.: 10992847-1
Amendment dated Aug. 5, 2003
Reply to Office action dated June 5, 2003

Claim 23 (previously presented): The laminate of claim 1, wherein the base film is an oriented propylene film.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The laminate of claim 1, wherein the base film is a spunbonded olefin film.